

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EB-07 TRSE-00 COME-00 SIL-01 LAB-04

XMB-02 FRB-03 /066 W

----- 103123

O R 121910Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6614

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY QUITO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LA PAZ 3268

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, ECON, BL

SUBJ: GULF BRIBERY CHARGES

1. CABINET SCHEDULED TO MEET IN SPECIAL SESSION MAY 12 TO CONSIDER NEXT STEPS IN GULF CASE. CARLOS DORADO, GULF'S REPRESENTATIVE IN LA PAZ, SAID CABINET FACED WITH TWO ALTERNATIVES: (A) CONSIDER GULF'S REPLY AS INADEQUATE AND PROCEED TO SUSPENSION OF INDEMNIFICATION PAYMENTS OR (B) ACCEPT REPLY AND OFFER TO SEND GULF REPRESENTATIVE TO FURTHER CLARIFY CASE.

2. TONE OF NEWSPAPER REPORTING OF CASE WORSENERD ON SUNDAY FROM EMPHASIS GIVEN IN SATURDAY'S PAPERS TO STATEMENT THAT BOLIVIA WAS NOT COUNTRY WHICH HAD RECEIVED US\$ 4.2 MILLION IN GULF PAYMENTS. HOY OF MAY 11 CARRIES HEADLINES THAT GOB NOT SATISFIED WITH GULF REPLY AND THAT COUNTRY INDIGNANT ABOUT GULF REPLY. ACCORDING TO HOY ARTICLE, SECRETARY FOR PRESS AND INFORMATION, JAVIER ARCE (VILLALBA) STATED GOB WILL INSIST THAT GULF STATE HOW WHEN WHERE AND TO WHOM BRIBES WERE MADE IN BOLIVIA. ANOTHER ARTICLE  
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CITES INDIGNATION AMONG PRIVATE ENTREPRENEURS AND LABOR

LEADERS THAT GULF HAS "CAST" SHADOWS OVER THE COUNTRY"  
BUT IS TRYING TO CALM THE PROTEST WITH NOTE THAT "DOESN'T  
SAY ANYTHING."

3. EDWIN TAPIA, NOMINAL LEADER OF WHAT REMAINS OF BARRIENTISTA  
PARTY, ACCORDING TO ANOTHER HOY ARTICLE, IS CHARGING LEFTISTS  
WITH TRYING TO DEFAME BARRIENTOS'S IMAGE. ACCORDING CARLOS  
DORADO, IF TURNS OUT THAT GULF MADE CONTRIBUTIONS TO BARRIENTOS'  
1966 ELECTION CAMPAIGN COULD DAMAGE BANZER GOVERNMENT BECAUSE  
OF LARGE NUMBER OF EX-BARRIENTISTAS IN IT.

4. IN MAY 11 PRESENCIA ARTICLE, JAVIER ARCE IS QUOTED AS SAYING  
HE DID NOT WANT TO ADVANCE ANY OPINION ON WHETHER INDEMNIFI-  
CATION PAYMENTS WILL BE SUSPENDED.

5. POSSIBLY MOST SERIOUS CHARGES WILL BE MADE AGAINST GOB IF  
IT REFUSES INVESTIGATE MATTER FURTHER. MARCELO QUIROGA,  
LEFTIST EX-MINISTER OF MINING AND METALLURGY, IS REPORTEDLY  
RAISING CHARGES VIA LATIN FROM MEXICO THAT GULF MADE PAYMENTS  
TO IMPROVE ITS INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT. GONZALO LOPEZ, EDITOR  
OF BUSINESS NEWSLETTER, IPE, HAS INFORMED EMBOFF THAT  
HIS CURRENT EDITION, SCHEDULED TO COME OUT AFTERNOON  
OF MAY 12, WILL DEMAND INVESTIGATION BY GOB ON GROUNDS  
THAT TOO MANY BOLIVIANS KNOW THAT GULF PAYMENTS WERE MADE  
TO GET ACCEPTABLE SETTLEMENT FOR GOB TO ATTEMPT TO COVER  
MATTER UP.  
STEDMAN

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## Message Attributes

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